FIRST COMICS 1982 1987 FIFTH ANNIVERSARY
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3
LIMITED SERIES
NO. 3 OF 6
$1.75 $2.45 CANADA

MICHAEL MOORCOCK'S

Elric

the vanishing tower

ROY THOMAS AND JAN DUURSEMA

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WHO ARE THESE GUYS, ANYWAY?

For ten thousand years the sorcerer-kings of **Melniboné** had ruled the Bright Empire aided by pacts with the ancient gods of Chaos.

Last to sit on the Ruby Throne was the albino, **Elric**. Weak and sickly, kept alive by sorcery and drugs, he was unlike his inhuman subjects for he possessed a conscience, though he often chose not to heed it.

With his throne usurped by his mad cousin, **Yyrkoon**, and his beloved **Cymoril** placed in a sorcerous sleep, Elric was manipulated by the Chaos lord, **Arioch**, into claiming the runeblade **Stormbringer**. With the sword, Elric needed no longer fear his weakness, for Stormbringer drank souls and would share its stolen life with him. So for vengeance and love, Elric led an armada against Melniboné. But fate betrayed him, for in destroying Yyrkoon he was also responsible, albeit unwillingly, for razing Imrryr and for Cymoril's death.

Now Elric — kinslayer, womanslayer and traitor — is a wanderer. Hated by his scattered subjects and feared by humans, his only companion is **Moonglum of Elwher**.

LAST ISSUE: Elric had recovered a mysterious pouch and a Nanorian gem to break the spell **Theleb K'Aarna** had placed on **Myshella**, Empress of the Dawn. The counterspell failed, and when Theleb's inhuman allies surrounded the castle, an enraged Elric attacked the army alone. But Stormbringer was soon glutted with souls and refused to feed Elric the stolen energy he needed...

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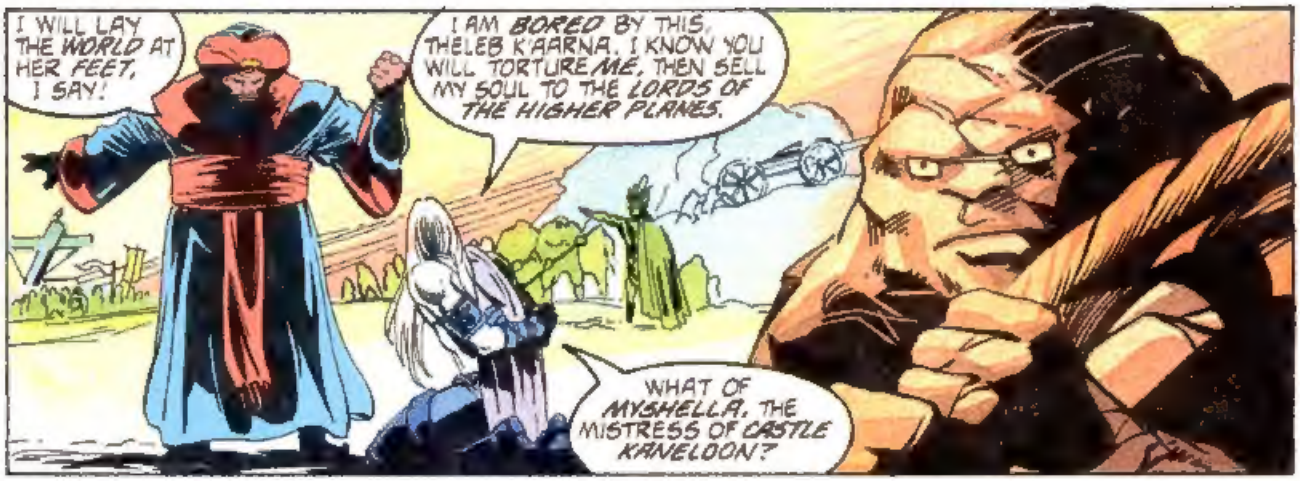
SPLOOOSH
WAKE UP, ALBINO!
KLAK-K
WAKE UP, I SAID!
AH, THAT IS MORE LIKE IT!
NOTHING LIKE A BUCKETFULL OF SNOW AND SLUSH TO GET THAT DECADENT MELNIBONEAN BLOOD STIRRING, IS THERE?

A GREAT HOST SCREAMING
BY THE GODS, THIS IS MORE THAN I HAD HOPED— TO CAPTURE YOU ALIVE!
YOUR FOOLISHNESS WAS UNBELIEVABLE! I THOUGHT—AS DID MY ALLY, PRINCE UMARO—THAT YOU MUST HAVE AN ARMY BEHIND YOU.
INSTEAD, YOU ATTACKED THE ENTIRE KELMAIN HOST ALONE! DOUBTLESS IT WAS FEAR WHICH UNBALANCED YOUR POOR BRAIN, EH?
WELL? HAS YOUR DEFEAT SILENCED THAT SERPENT TONGUE?
Continuing The Adaptation of MICHAEL MOORCOCK'S The Vanishing Tower
by
ROY THOMAS scripter
JAN DUURSEMA illustrator
CARRIE SPIEGLE letterer
TOBERN KINDZIERSKI colorist
LAUREL FITCH editor
2
3

STILL, I'LL NOT SPECULATE UPON THE CAUSE OF MY OWN GOOD FORTUNE.
THERE'S MANY A BARGAIN I CAN STRIKE WITH THE DENIZENS OF OTHER PLANES--
--WHEN I OFFER THEM YOUR SOUL!
YOUR BODY I SHALL KEEP FOR MYSELF-- TO SHOW QUEEN YISHANA WHAT I DID TO HER LOVER BEFORE I LET HIM DIE.
I DO NOT LOVE YISHANA, THELEB KAARNA.
ONLY YOUR JEALOUS HEART MAKES YOU THINK SO. INDEED, I LEFT HER SIDE TO FIND YOU.
'TIS NEVER LOVE THAT MOVES ELRIC OF MELNIBONÉ-- BUT ALWAYS HATRED.
LIAR!
SLAP!
WHEN THE WHOLE SOUTH FALLS TO ME AND MY COMRADES, THEN WILL I OFFER TO MAKE YISHANA QUEEN OF BOTH SOUTH AND WEST!
OUR FORCES UNITED, WE SHALL DOMINATE THE EARTH!
YOU PAN TANGIANS WERE ALWAYS AN INSECURE BREED-- FOREVER PLANNING CONQUEST FOR IT'S OWN SAKE!
FOOL! IT IS NOT FOR PAN TANG THAT I DO THIS--
IT IS FOR YISHANA? THEN, BY THE GODS, WIZARD, I AM GLAD THAT I AM MOVED BY HATE AND NOT BY LOVE--
--FOR I DO NOT HALF THE DAMAGE, IT SEEMS, DONE BY THOSE IN LOVE.
4


I WILL LAY THE WORLD AT HER FEET, I SAY!
I AM BORED BY THIS, THELEB K'AARNA. I KNOW YOU WILL TORTURE ME, THEN SELL MY SOUL TO THE LORDS OF THE HIGHER PLANES.
WHAT OF MYSHELLA, THE MISTRESS OF CASTLE KANELOON?

THE KELMAIN HOST WILL DEAL WITH KANELOON.
ONE SHARP KNIFE IS ALL THAT'S NEEDED NOW TO SLIT MYSHELLA'S THROAT WHILE SHE LIES IN SORCEROUS SLEEP.

SHE IS... PROTECTED.

PROTECTED?

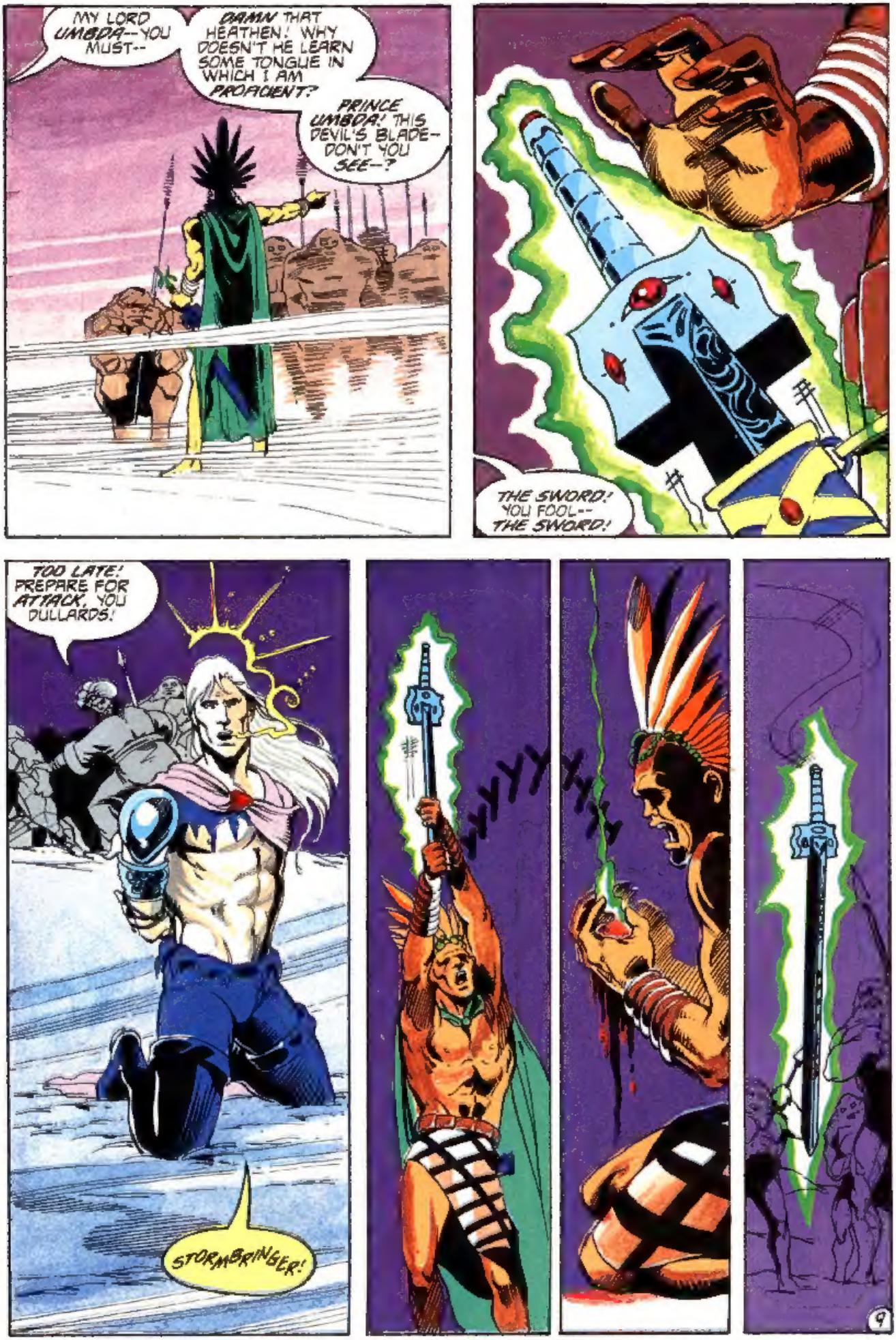
AYE, NO DOUBT-- STILL, THE GATE WILL FALL SOON ENOUGH--
--AND YOUR LITTLE REDHAIRED FRIEND WILL PERISH BY THE DARK LADY'S SIDE!

AT PRINCE UMDA'S REQUEST, I AM ALLOWING HIS INHUMAN HOST TO REST BEFORE STORMING THE CASTLE.
BUT KANELOON WILL BE BURNING BY NIGHTFALL!

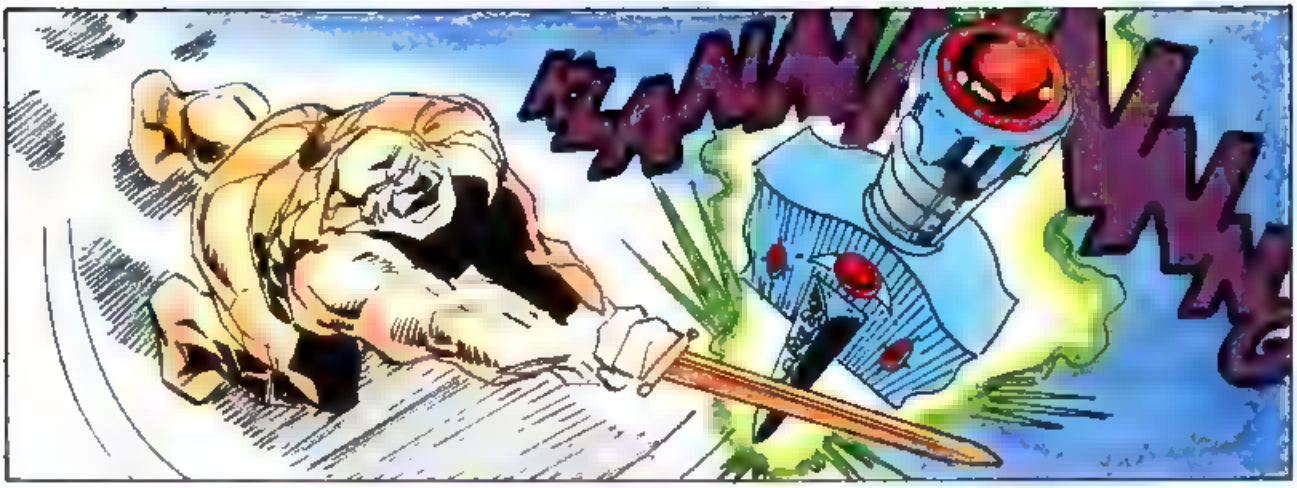
PERHAPS IT WILL, AT THAT.
PLAINLY MY RUNES HAVE FAILED TO COUNTER YOUR SPELL.
I WOULD--
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
NOTHING.
I MERELY WONDERED WHERE MY SWORD WAS.
NOWHERE YOU CAN REACH IT, REAVER!
PRINCE UMBDA?
THE PRINCE MAY NOT UNDERSTAND THIS TONGUE YOU AND I SPEAK IN COMMON--WHILE HIS HOST ALL ARE MUTES--
--BUT HE REASONED THAT YOUR BLACK BLADE WAS JUST THE WEAPON FOR THE LORD OF THE KELMAIN HOST!
6

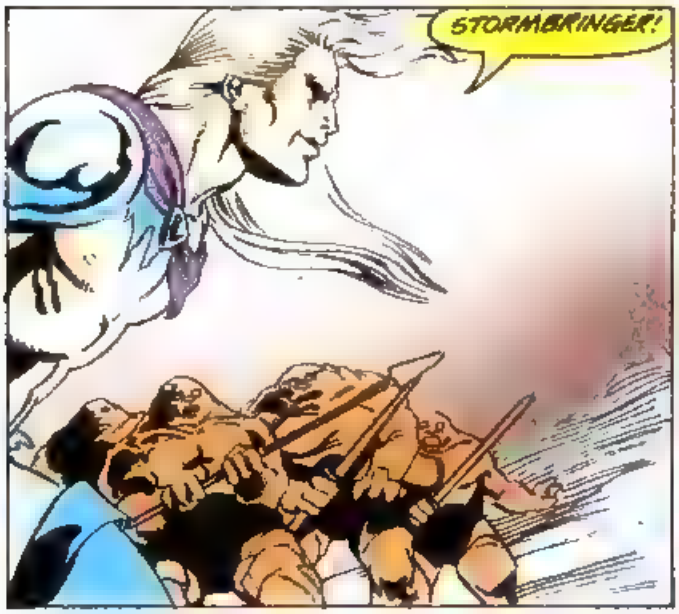
EH? WHAT ARE YOU DOING THERE, WHITE WOLF?
SEEKING TO RUN AWAY?
QUITE THE CONTRARY, THELEB K'AARNA...
...I BUT WISHED FOR A BETTER VIEW OF THE COMING CONQUEST OF KANELOON.
STORMBRINGER...
BE SILENT, JACKAL!
STORMBRINGER...
7

OH, SO YOU ASSUME I WON'T KILL YOU HERE AND NOW, EH?
STORMBRINGER...
WELL, I NEED NOT SLAY YOU!
ONLY CUT OUT THAT DAMNED TONGUE OF YOURS, RIGHT--
-NOOOOWWW
STORMBRINGER...
BY CHARDROS, IF I DID NOT WISH TO SEE YOU DIE OVER THE MONTHS, I WOULD--
EH? I SENSE--
8


MY LORD UMBDA--YOU MUST--
DAMN THAT HEATHEN! WHY DOESN'T HE LEARN SOME TONGUE IN WHICH I AM PROFICIENT?
PRINCE UMBDA! THIS DEVIL'S BLADE--DON'T YOU SEE--?
THE SWORD! YOU FOOL--THE SWORD!
TOO LATE! PREPARE FOR ATTACK, YOU DULLARDS!
STORMBRINGER!
9

STORMBRINGER!
DO NOT LET THE SWORD REACH HIM, YOU FOOLS!
STORM-BRINGER!
TO ME!




STORMBRINGER!

THUK

SSLASSHH

FIRST NOTES

Oops!

Okay, so we made a mistake. **Howard Chaykin's** original vision of **American Flagg!** is a hard act to follow, and we didn't do such a great job in the post-Chaykin era. We had some talented people working with us — **Mark Badger, Randy Emberlin, Steven Grant,** and **J. M. DeMatteis,** and we just sort of set them adrift in uncharted waters with a cheerful wave and a hearty "good luck!"

Mostly — blame myself. I never really understood what Chaykin was doing with **AF!** (hey, let's be honest — how many of *you* really understood it?), and I never gave our writers a whole lot of editorial direction. (And considering the fact that my title is "editorial director," this might be construed as something of a major slip-up on my part.) It's always hard for a writer to pick up someone else's creation and run with it. In the case of **AF!**, it's particularly difficult — and with an editor whose most constructive comment is "Gee, I don't know," it's damn near impossible.

After floundering around like this for the better part of two years, I hit upon a brilliant solution: I called Chaykin. And he was already one step ahead of me.

"I've got this great idea for a 50th anniversary issue of Flagg," he announced (which was strange, because he hadn't bothered to say hello or ask who the hell was calling him at 3 a.m.). "I've plotted out this four-part story, starting with issue #47. **Paul Smith** will draw issues #47 and #48. **Mike Vosburg** will draw issues #49 and #50, **Mindy Newell** will dialog #47-49, and I'll write #50 myself!"

"Gee, I don't know," I replied, not wishing to appear inconsistent.

"Good," he continued, oblivious to my vital editorial input. "We already have the — the first three issues laid out. You'll love it! And then do you know what I'm going to do?"

"No," I quickly responded, relieved to have a definite stance on something.

"I'm putting together my own team to produce **American Flagg!** on an ongoing basis. I'll plot and layout each issue myself and oversee the production of the finished art. It'll be even better than the original, **AF!** because I'll be working with my own hand-picked team of talented artists refining a new synergistic style. In fact, this is such an unbelievable breakthrough that we should change the name of the book and start out with a new number one issue."

"Gee, I don't know," I interjected, reverting to form.

"You always were a wimp, Oliver. You know that? Trust me on this one. When have I ever let you down?"

After thinking about it for several weeks (I didn't want to rush into anything), I realized the answer was "never" — **Howard Chaykin** has never let us down. And if he's got a plan for **American Flagg!**, odds are it's a great one. Check it out and decide for yourself, starting this month in **American Flagg!** #47, leading up to a bollo 50th anniversary issue, and continuing beyond with either issue #51 or #1, depending on my earth-shattering editorial decision.

Going Once, Going Twice, Going...

The first printing of **Lone Wolf and Cub** #1 sold out overnight. So did the second. As I write this, we're going to press with the third. Needless to say, **Lone Wolf** has far exceeded everyone's expectations, and we're working overtime to meet the unexpected demand. But rest assured, we will do everything we can to make sure that **Lone Wolf and Cub** #1 will be available for everyone.

The same goes for issues 2, 3, 4, 5 — well, you get the idea.

American Flagg! #47. Reuben takes on the Plex! Beginning a *very* special four-part **AF!** saga by **Howard Chaykin, Mindy Newell** and **Paul Smith**. Cover by Chaykin. $1.75

Badger #30. Badger is struck down by Negative Kung — the delayed death touch — and only "The Grand Master" can save him! Part-one of a three-issue martial arts extravaganza! By **Mike Baron** and **Bill Reinhold**. $1.75

Dynamo Joe #14. It had to happen — Dynamo Joe versus Wolf-1 in a fight to the finish! The penultimate confrontation of the Orion War! By **Phil Foglio, Doug Rice** and **Brian Thomas**. $1.75

Elric: The Vanishing Tower #3. The awesome power of the enchanted runesword Stormbringer is unleashed, as "The Noose of Flesh" tightens around the albino prince's captors. Adaptation by **Roy Thomas** and **Jan Duursema**. Bi-monthly series. $1.75

Grimjack #41. The old Grimjack is dead, and the new John Gaunt now lives in the shadows, seeking out those in need. And the shadows lead him to the decadent, predatory world of the Wild Side to solve the mystery of "The Weeping Bride." By **John Ostrander** and **Tom Mandrake**. Plus: Munden's Bar by **Phil Foglio**. $1.75

Jon Sable Freelance #54. Sable sets out on the trail of international smugglers supplying contraband to the IRA, and learns the shocking secret of "Jack Light." Part one of a special three-issue story by **Mike Grell** and **Tony Salmons**. Cover by Grell. $1.75

Lone Wolf and Cub #4. The assassin's road leads the Lone Wolf to a deadly confrontation with the dreaded Bentenral. By **Kazuo Koike** and **Goseki Kojima**. Cover and introduction by **Frank Miller**. Black-and-white, 64 pages. Perfect bound. $1.95.

Nexus #39. The Boom Search — the device that enables skilled telepaths to search the cosmos for other powerful minds — is used to find a broker willing to trade the power necessary to slay Nexus. By **Mike Baron** and *Kirby Award* winning artist **Steve Rude**. $1.75

Psychoblast #2. It was all in his mind until it escaped! Who is Psychoblast, and what's the source of his power? The first issue gave you a glimpse of what he's capable of, but now his full fury is unleashed as he confronts the mysterious Arrabella, a psychic vampire driven to destroy Psychoblast. By **Steven Grant, Robb Phipps** and **Al Vey**. $1.75

Shatter #12. While the Insurance Wars rage, Shatter aligns himself with the Alien Nation to oust the computers of Daley City. By **Peter B. Gillis** and computer graphics wizard **Charlie Athanas**. Bi-monthly series. $1.75

Whisper #10. A wrong number leads to the beginning of a new storyline as Whisper becomes embroiled in a CIA cover-up of Contra atrocities and drug trafficking. By **Steven Grant** and **Norm Breyfogle**. Painted cover by Breyfogle. Bi-monthly series. $1.75

A TUNED OUT GUY. A TURNED ON DOLL.
AND A PSYCHO-SEXUAL POLICE CAR
ON THE PROWL...
THERE'LL BE HELL TO PAY.
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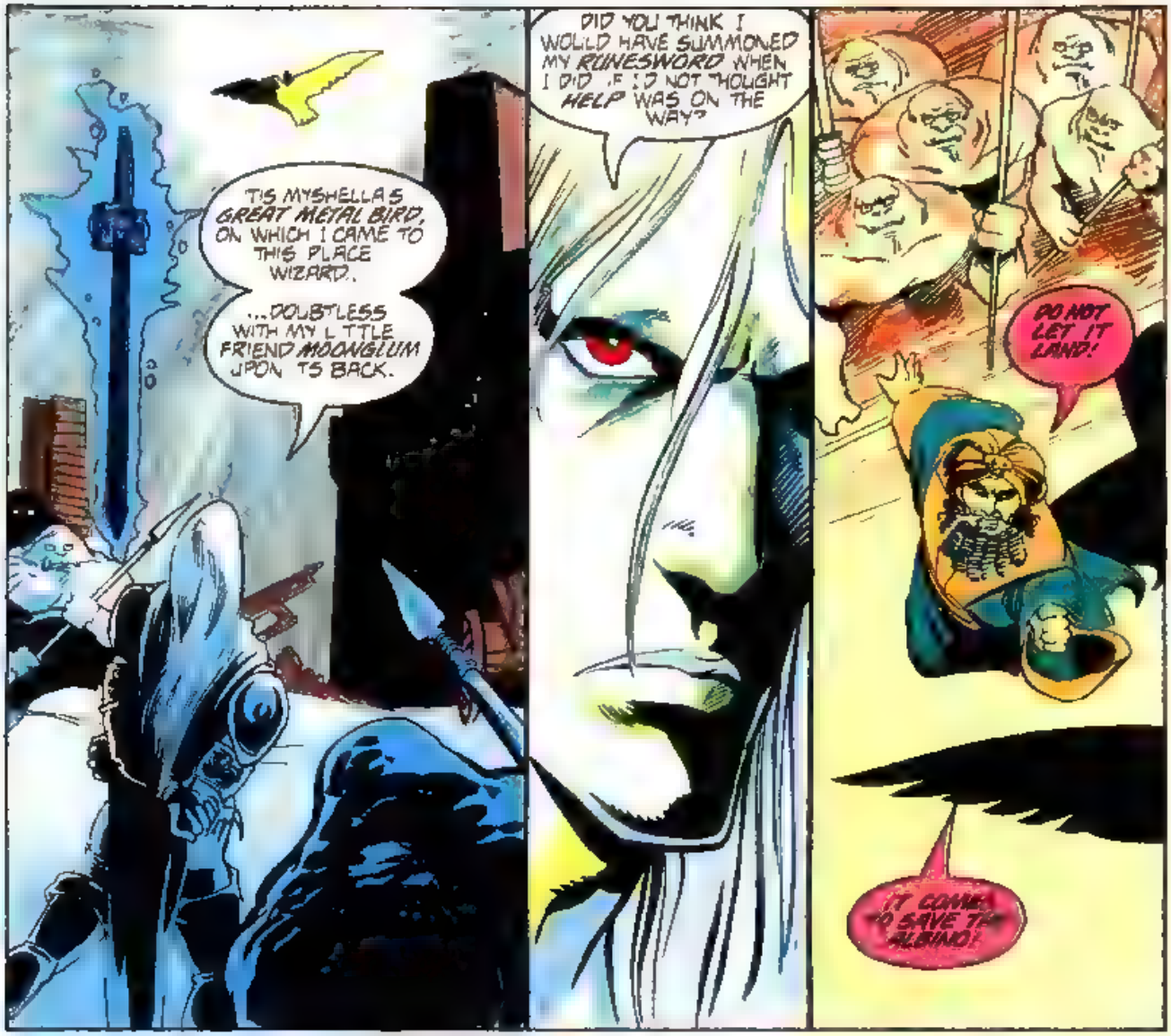
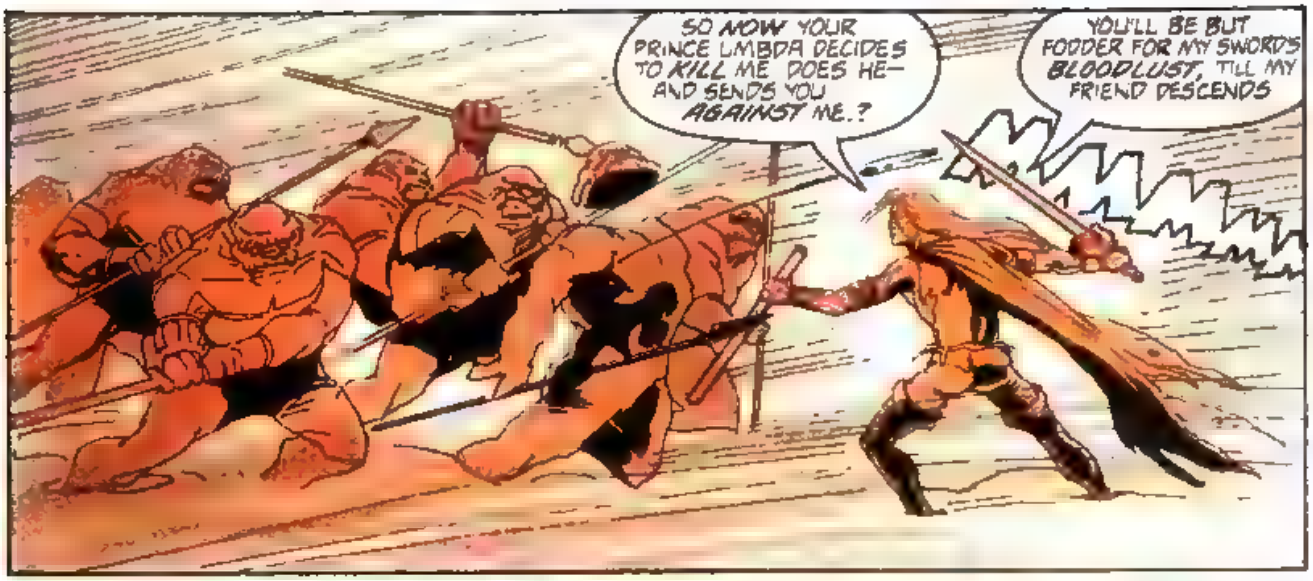
STORMBRINGER .
--MY DAGGER WILL FIND YOUR HEART BEFORE THAT HELLBLADE REACHES YOU
BY ALL THE GODS!
WHAT .
12


TIS MYSHELLA'S GREAT METAL BIRD, ON WHICH I CAME TO THIS PLACE WIZARD.
...DOUBTLESS WITH MY LITTLE FRIEND MOONGLUM UPON ITS BACK.
DID YOU THINK I WOULD HAVE SUMMONED MY RUNESWORD WHEN I DID IF I'D NOT THOUGHT HELP WAS ON THE WAY?
DO NOT LET IT LAND!
IT COMES TO SAVE THE ALBINO!

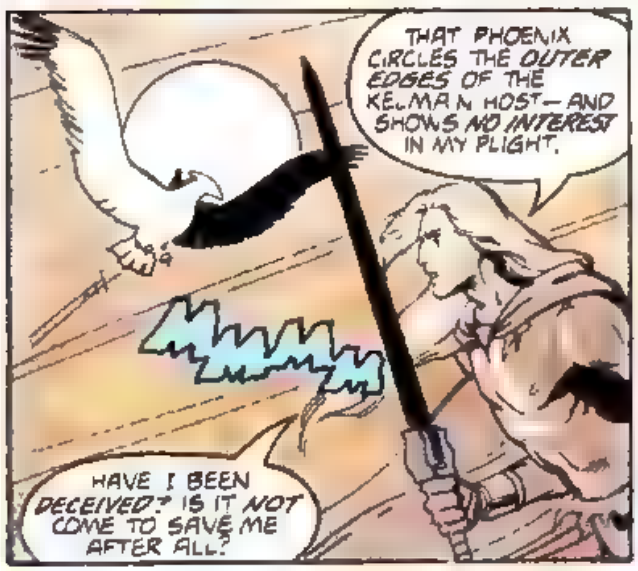
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND ANYTHING?
I SAID-- DO-NOT-LET-IT-LAND!

STORMBRINGER..
SLICE
NOW, MY BLACK BLADE... I TRUST YOU ARE NO LONGER SATED BY THE BLOOD AND SOULS YOU DRANK BEFORE...
...AND WOULD WELCOME MORE?
WELL, STEALER OF SOULS--
--YOU SHALL HAVE THEM!


SO NOW YOUR PRINCE LMBDA DECIDES TO KILL ME DOES HE— AND SENDS YOU AGAINST ME..?
YOU'LL BE BUT FODDER FOR MY SWORD'S BLOODLUST, TILL MY FRIEND DESCENDS

MOONGLUM!
WHERE IN HEAVEN OR HELL ARE YOU??

RAWN!


THAT PHOENIX CIRCLES THE OUTER EDGES OF THE KE.MA N HOST— AND SHOWS NO INTEREST IN MY PLIGHT.
HAVE I BEEN DECEIVED? IS IT NOT COME TO SAVE ME AFTER ALL?

IF NOT, YOU'LL DRINK DEEP TH.S DAY, STORMBRINGER—
--BUT 'TIS THE LAST MEAL YOU'LL GET FROM ELRIC OF MELNIBONE!

QUICKLY, LORD ELRIC--
EH..?
MYSHELLA!
--BEFORE THEY CLOSE IN AGAIN
I DID NOT THINK YOU WOULD COME FOR ME PERSONALLY, DARK LADY
YOUR RUNE MAGIC AND THE NAADRION STONE DEFEATED THELEB K'AARNA'S ENCHANTMENT, AFTER ALL, MELNIBONEAN..
..ALBEIT THEY TOOK A BIT LONGER THAN EITHER OF US MIGHT HAVE LIKED.
BUT--WHY ARE YOU MAKING STILL ANOTHER CIRCUIT OF PRINCE LAMBDA'S ARMY?
YOU SMALL BEE
AND THEN MYSHELLA BEGINS TO SING A SONG..
16

...A STRANGE, DISTURBING CHANT IN A LANGUAGE NOT UNLIKE HIGH MELNIBONEAN SPEECH..
...YET DIFFERENT ENOUGH THAT ELRIC UNDERSTANDS BUT A FEW WORDS, FOR THE TONGUE IS ODDLY ACCENTED
IT IS DONE. NOW WE MAY RETURN TO THE CASTLE
AND JUST IN TIME--FOR PRINCE UMBOAR'S WARRIORS ARE FORMING THEIR RANKS INTO BATTLE ORDER!
BUT WHAT DID YOU DO BACK THERE?
PERHAPS I DID NOTHING PERHAPS THE SORCERY WILL NOT WORK.
ELRIC! LADY MYSHELLA!
THE KELMAIN HOST ARE ATTACKING!
YES, MOONGLUM, I KNOW.
NOW MILADY WHAT WAS IT YOU--?
DO YOU REMEMBER THE PURSE I HAD YOU AND MY PHOENIX FETCH ME--
--FROM THE PALACE OF ASHANELOON?
I SCATTERED ITS CONTENTS AROUND THE KELMAIN HOST
..AND MURMURED.. CERTAIN ENCHANTMENTS, TO STIR THOSE CONTENTS INTO ACTION.
AND IF YOUR SPELL HAS NOT WORKED--?
BE SILENT, LITTLE FRIEND--AND LOOK AT YONDER ARMY.
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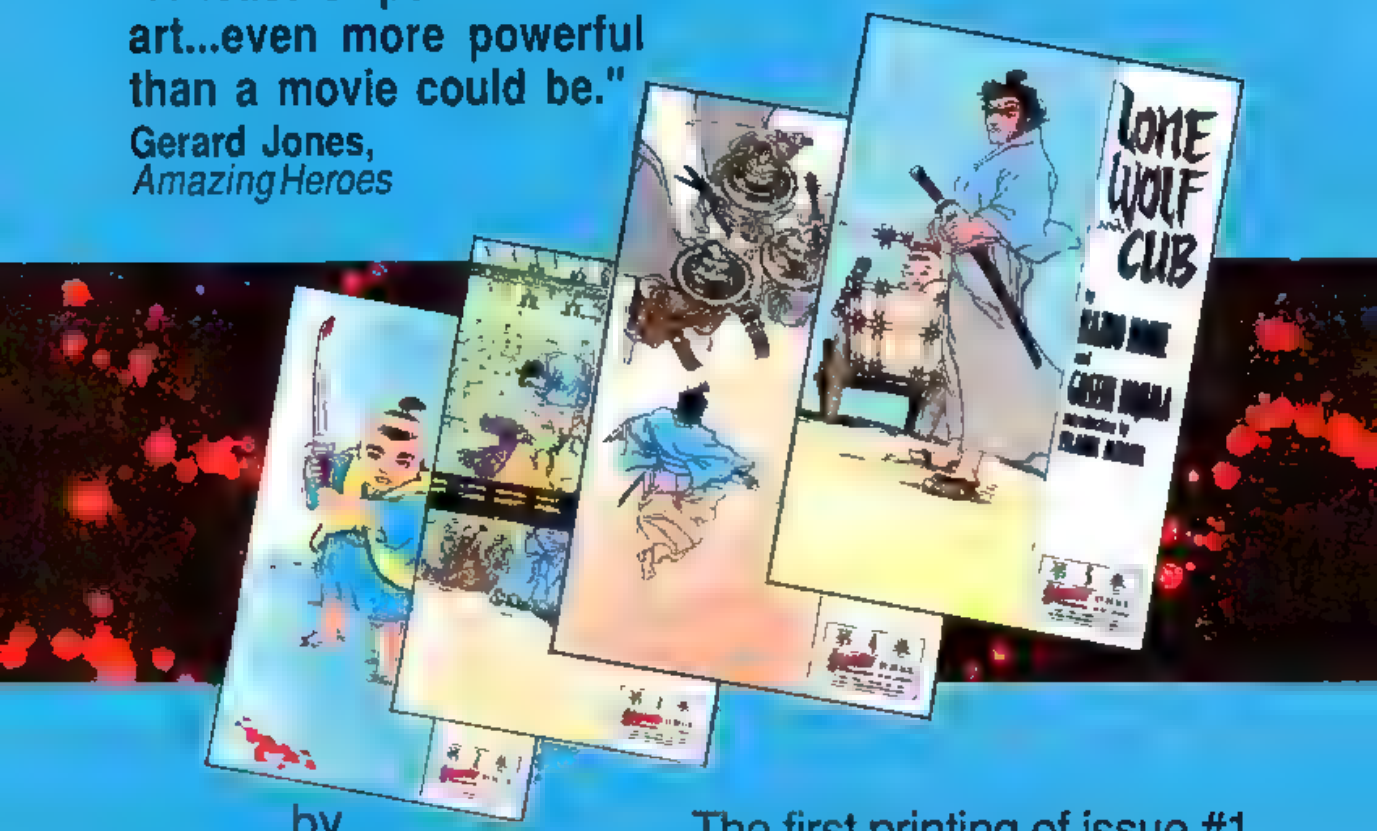
"This one is going to sell out *fast*... Miss it at your peril."

Don Thompson, Editor, *Comics Buyer's Guide*

"A feast of powerful action art...even more powerful than a movie could be."
Gerard Jones,
Amazing Heroes



by
KAZUO KOIKE
and
GOSEKI KOJIMA

Introductions and covers by
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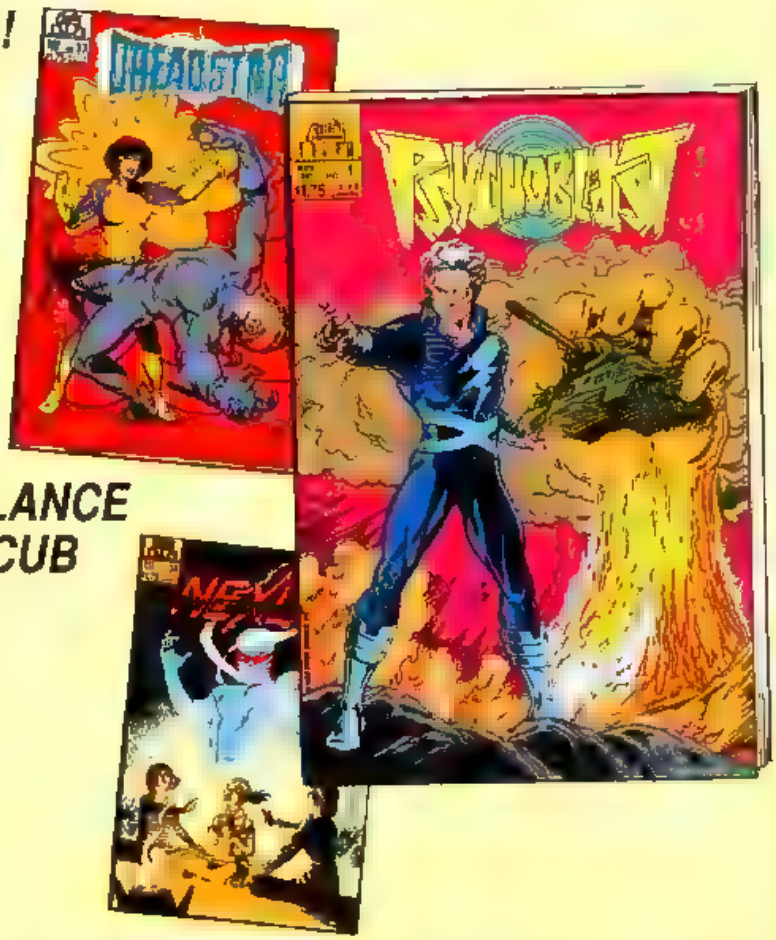

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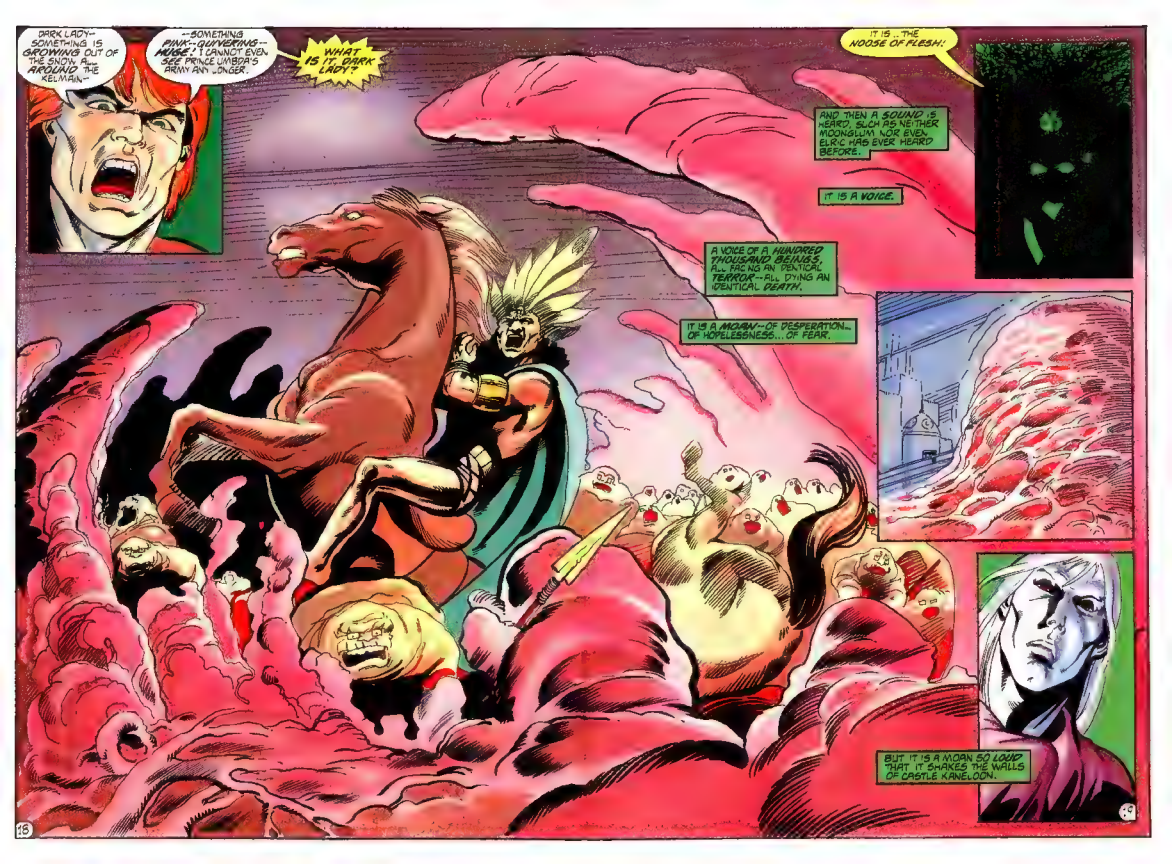
DARK LADY--SOMETHING IS GROWING OUT OF THE SNOW AND AROUND THE KELMAIN--
--SOMETHING PINK--GURGLING--MASS! I CANNOT EVEN SEE PRINCE UMBA'S ARMY ANY LONGER.
WHAT IS IT, DARK LADY?
IT IS...THE NOOSE OF FLESH!
AND THEN A SOUND IS HEARD, SUCH AS NEITHER MOONGLUM NOR ELRIC HAS EVER HEARD BEFORE.
IT IS A VOICE.
A VOICE OF A HUNDRED THOUSAND BEINGS, ALL TAKING AN IDENTICAL TERROR--ALL DYING AN IDENTICAL DEATH.
IT IS A MOAN--OF DESPERATION... OF HOPELESSNESS... OF FEAR.
BUT IT IS A MOAN SO LOUD THAT IT SHAKES THE WALLS OF CASTLE KANELOON.
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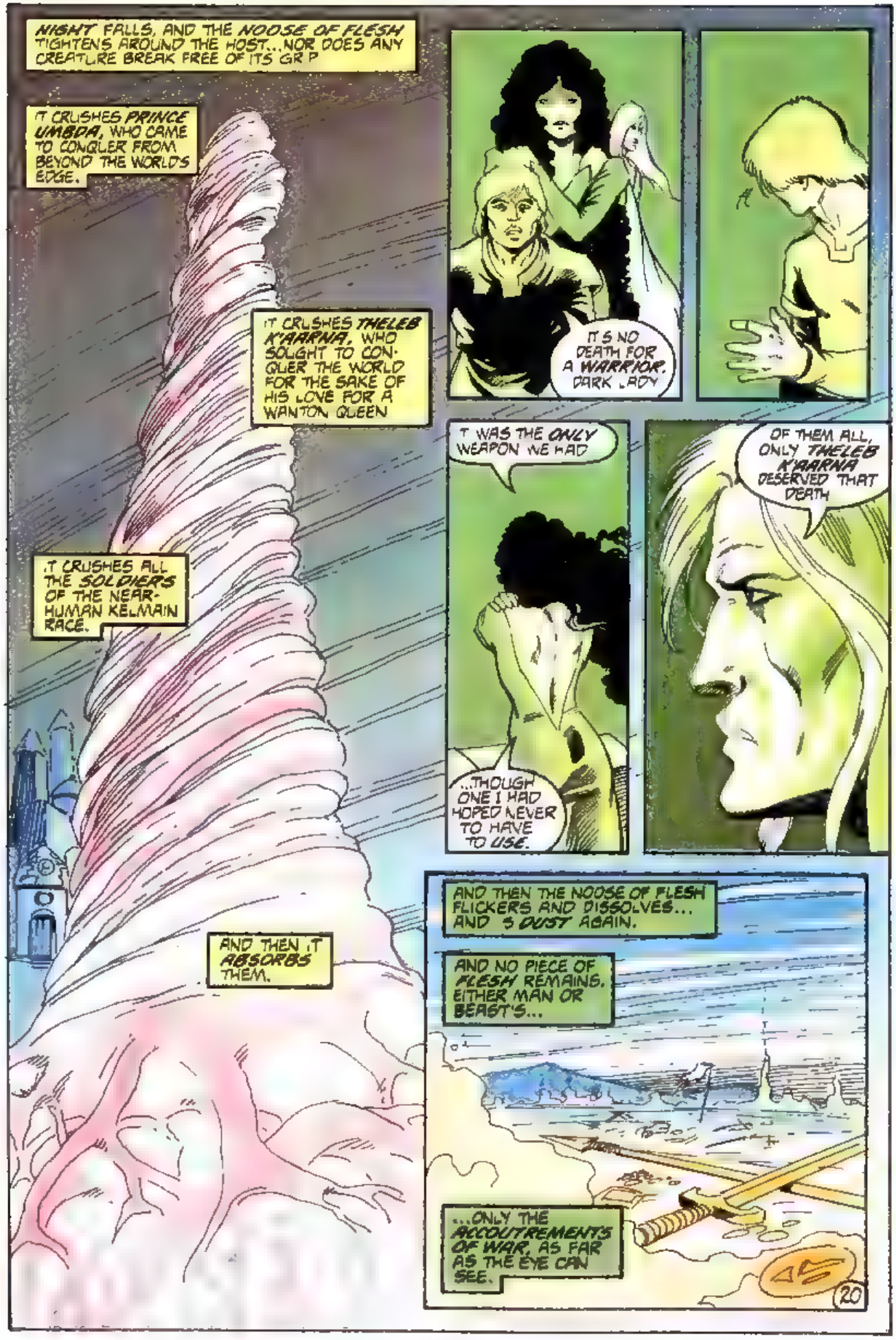
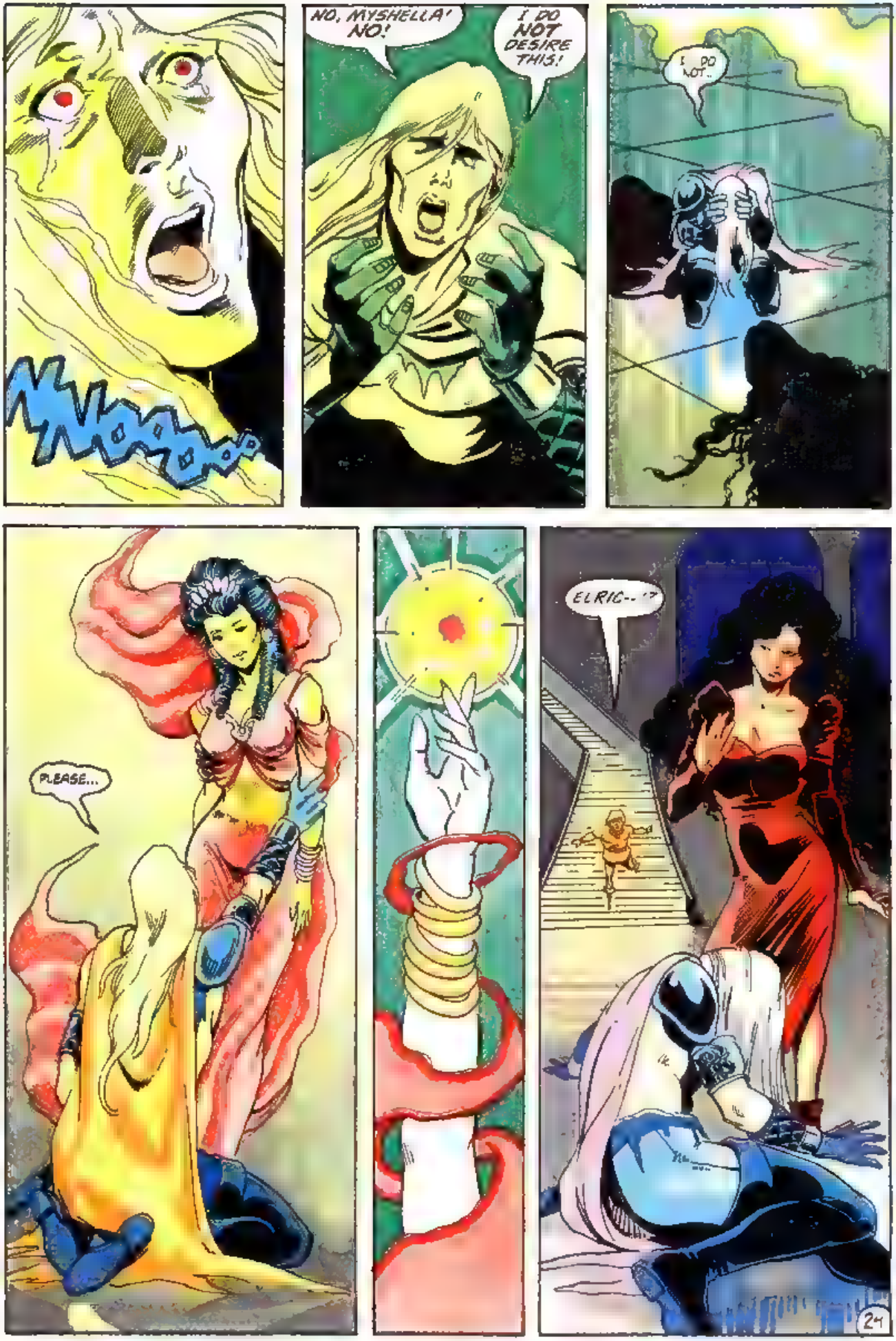

NIGHT FALLS, AND THE NOOSE OF FLESH TIGHTENS AROUND THE HOST...NOR DOES ANY CREATURE BREAK FREE OF ITS GR P
IT CRUSHES PRINCE UMBDA, WHO CAME TO CONQUER FROM BEYOND THE WORLD'S EDGE.
IT CRUSHES THELEB K'AARNA, WHO SOUGHT TO CONQUER THE WORLD FOR THE SAKE OF HIS LOVE FOR A WANTON QUEEN
IT CRUSHES ALL THE SOLDIERS OF THE NEAR-HUMAN KELMAIN RACE.
AND THEN IT ABSORBS THEM.
IT'S NO DEATH FOR A WARRIOR, DARK LADY
IT WAS THE ONLY WEAPON WE HAD
...THOUGH ONE I HAD HOPED NEVER TO HAVE TO USE.
OF THEM ALL, ONLY THELEB K'AARNA DESERVED THAT DEATH
AND THEN THE NOOSE OF FLESH FLICKERS AND DISSOLVES... AND S DUST AGAIN.
AND NO PIECE OF FLESH REMAINS, EITHER MAN OR BEAST'S...
...ONLY THE ACCOUTREMENTS OF WAR, AS FAR AS THE EYE CAN SEE.
20

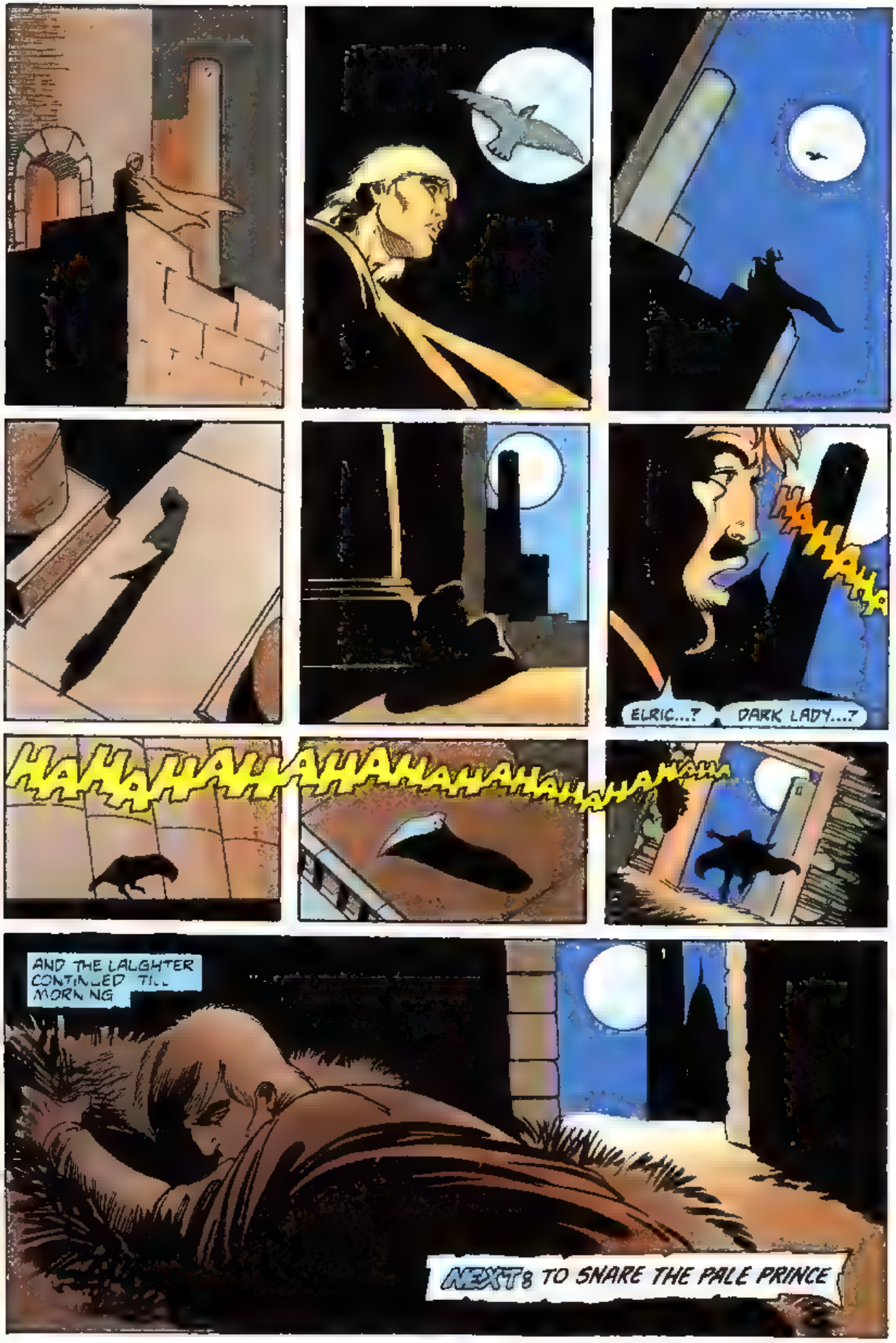
I THANK YOU ELRIC, FOR BRINGING ME THE NOOSE OF FLESH... AND FOR FINDING THE STONE WHICH REVIVED ME
I THANK YOU TOO FOR SAVING LORMYR.
THANK ME FOR NOTHING, LADY MYSHELLA
WHAT I DID WAS DONE TO SATISFY MY OWN DARK URGES TO SATE MY THIRST FOR VENGEANCE.
I HAVE DESTROYED THELEB K'AARNA. THE REST WAS INCIDENTAL.
I CARE NAUGHT FOR LORMYR OR THE YOUNG KINGDOMS. FOR ANY OF YOUR CAUSES.
WAIT, LORD ELRIC...
CASTLE KANELOON IS MAGICAL.
IT REFLECTS THE DESIRES OF ANY WHO ENTER IT--
--SHOULD I WISH IT TO
THEN PLAINLY WE HAVE NO DESIRES
MINE ARE SATISFIED NOW THAT MY SORCEROUS FOE IS DEAD.
21

I WOULD LEAVE THIS PLACE NOW MY LADY
AND YOU HAVE NO DESIRES
NO DESIRES AT ALL?
I UNDERSTAND YOU.
DO NOT ASK TOO MANY QUESTIONS OF ME.
NOW SEE
THIS CASTLE BECOMES WHAT YOU MOST DESIRE..
..AND IN IT..
YOUR OWN APPEARANCE I ADMIT...
BUT.. ARE YOU..?
22

AND NOW ELRIC SEEMS TO BE NO LONGER IN CASTLE KANEL-OON BUT IN THE IMPERIAL PALACE AT IMRRYR, PROUD JEWEL AND CAPITAL OF MELNIBONÉ AND THE BRIGHT EMPIRE.
.. THE THINGS, AYE EVEN THE PERSONS YOU MOST DESIRE
IT IS NO MORE MYSHELLA, THE DARK LADY WHO STANDS BEFORE HIM...NO NOT EVEN HER DULCET TONES HE HEARS.
..BUT HIS DEAR COUSIN AND LOVER CYMORIL, WHO DIED IN TIME PAST UPON THE CURSED POINT OF STORM-BRINGER, STEALER OF SOULS.. A SWORD HE HIMSELF WIELDED.
BEHIND HER, ALL SMILES, STAND TANGLEBONES, ONCE ELRIC'S FAITHFUL SERVANT... THE SEA LORDS WHO FOLLOWED HIM THE DAY HE LED THE ATTACK THAT DOOMED MELNIBONÉ... AYE, AND EVEN COUNT SMORGAN, WHO MORE THAN ANY HAD DESERVED BETTER AT ELRIC'S HANDS.
TWO THINGS ALL THESE HAVE IN COMMON:
ALL ARE PEOPLE WHOM ELRIC YEARNS TO SEE ONCE MORE. ALIVE...
...AND ALL ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE DEAD... BECAUSE OF HIM
23


NNOOOO!
NO, MYSHELLA! NO!
I DO NOT DESIRE THIS!
I DO NOT..
PLEASE...
ELRIC--!?
24

WHAT IS IT, ELRIC? WHAT DID YOU SEE?
ALL WAS SMOKE, AND DARKNESS, I COULD NOT--
ASK ME NOT.. OLD FRIEND.
DARK LADY. I WOULD KILL YOU FOR THAT..
IF I DID NOT UNDERSTAND THAT YOU SOUGHT ONLY TO PLEASE ME
KNOW YOU THIS: ELRIC CANNOT HAVE THAT WHICH HE MOST DESIRES.
WHAT HE DESIRES DOES NOT EXIST WHAT HE DESIRES IS DEAD.
ALL ELRIC HAS IS SORROW.. GUILT... MALICE... HATRED.
THIS IS ALL HE DESERVES..AND ALL HE WILL EVER AGAIN DESIRE.
SLAM
25


HAHAHAHA
ELRIC...?
DARK LADY...?
HAHAHAH

Melnibonéan Mailbox!

435 N. LASALLE, CHICAGO, IL 60610

HAWKWIND CONT'D

The number of readers that took the time (and effort!) to write and share everything they did — or admitted they didn't — know about **Michael Moorcock's** recording career was astounding Moorcock has been following this in the letters column (yes, he reads the adaptations of his books) and supplied a discography. So here it is — the ultimate source on Hawkwind:

Moorcock and The Deep Fix: LP The New Worlds Fair (UA 1975), 45s Dodgem Dude/Starcruiser (Flicknife 1980), Brothel In Rosenstrasse/Time Centre (FKn 1982), Hawkwind: Friends and Relations (Flicknife 1982), Hawkwind & Co. (Flicknife 1983).

Hawkwind records with Moorcock songs/poems ("MM" shows Moorcock sang on that LP). Space Ritual Alive (UA 1973), Warrior On The Edge of Time (UA 1975, MM), Masters of the Universe (UA 1977), Hawkwind Mind Journey (bootleg), Sonic Attack (RCA Active 1981, MM), Choose Your Masques (RCA Active 1982), Hawkwind, Live At the Bottom Line, New York (bootleg), Zones (Flicknife 1983, MM), and Bring Me the Head of Yuri Gagann (Demi Monde 1985), Sonic Attack (UA 1975, promo), Kings of Speed (UA 1975/Atco 1975).

Blue Öyster Cult (Moorcock songs): Mirrors (CBS 1979), Cultosaurus Erectus (CBS 1980), Fire of Unknown Origin (CBS 1981), Extraterrestrial Live (CBS 1982), Heavy Metal (Epic 1981, film track compilation).

Moorcock also plays banjo on Robert Calvert's LP Lucky Leif and the Longship (UA 1975) and 12 string guitar/back vocals on Calvert's Hype (A Side 1980).

There are also two videos. *The Final Programme* has been filmed and Moorcock and Hawkwind are briefly visible. And Hawkwind performs "Sonic Attack" on the vid Night of the Hawks (Jettisoundz 1984).

Moorcock asked that I include a warning for fans interested in clubs. The League of Temporal Adventurers in Memphis appears to have folded, and he requests that you send them no money.

Dear Laurel,

I can't tell you how thrilled I was when I saw your adaptation of Michael Moorcock's Elric. I had been collecting P.C. Russell's Elric, and was disappointed when it was discontinued. Your comic maintains the superior quality I so admired in the previous Elric. When I saw that you were also adapting Corum and Hawkmoon, I stared in disbelief, for it seemed too good to be true.

It should be enough that you are energetically adapting these three titles into comic form, (which is no small task). However, I think I am speaking for most Moorcock fans when I say that you have only succeeded in whetting our appetites. (We are a selfish lot!) WE WANT MORE!

I would like to see your rendering of the End of Time series. Although Elric, Corum, and Hawkmoon are unusual characters in the sword-and-sorcery genre, the End of Time series bypasses that genre altogether. The stories are clever and outrageous, bordering on the absurd. Here, your staff must be very careful, for the characters and their activities could easily appear inane if not handled with sensitivity. For instance, the characters extravagant clothes, bizarre parties, and strange vehicles could appear ridiculous if your artists did not preserve Moorcock's ingenuity.

Your writers would face equal challenges. They must maintain Moorcock's subtle satire, for a parallel exists between today's culture and this delightfully perverted society of decadent, yet witty artists living at the end of time.

And, please, let's drop the argument about Corum's fingers!

Laurel Felber
911 A-1 High Street
Bellingham, WA 98225

Okay.

Dear First,

YES, I would sell my cat for more Elric Graphic Novels! My sanity, such as it is, depends on the work of you fantastic people! Unsolicted donations I'm unsure of, but remember — for every one letter written, there are approximately 400 others who were too lazy but feel the same way. Also, on page 3 of "The Dream of Earl Aubec" there seems to be a strange incantation on Yyrkoon's sword, which reads "Arthur Conan Doyle." Subliminal messages?

Diana Lee
1313 Mahan
Richland, WA 99352

Can't be subliminal, you caught it didn't you?

*Wait no more! The next graphic novel is out! **Elric: Sailor on the Seas of Fate** should have appeared at your store in August.*

And about that "other 400." How about a little guilt-trip here. Aren't you ashamed to let other people make you comments for you? Is your hand broken? Write home — to me!

Dear First,

For the first time, I stopped

"The saying, 'you can't judge a book by its cover' goes for comics, too. Even though I did not get the ones I was looking for, I got this comic... Who would think an albino would be the hero?"

over at a nearby comic book shop. I got that month's comics I usually get, to find out I could not find two I really liked. I told the clerk. He walked behind the counter and pulled out two piles of comics. I was looking through some very colorful comics when I cam across a comic called Elric: The Vanishing Tower. It had no fancy cover but I was very curious what was inside. I stopped for a second to look inside. Out jumping came this beautiful color and artwork. I shut the comic to see if the others were better. The saying, "you can't judge a book by its cover" goes for comics, too. Even though I did not get the ones I was looking for, I got this comic.

After reading this issue, I found it's a very good plot to start with. Other comics hope you read their earlier issues that didn't even go under the right name.

The color, artwork, and even the paper you print it on was good. I guess the other companies give you cheaper paper so it rots and their comics go up in price for being so rare to find.

Characters were different. Most comics just give you a brave and cunning hero with no faults. Who would think an albino would be the hero?

I think this comic is on the top of the list! Keep this comic going good, I'll be reading them.

Stanley E. Brown
701 Greenlawn Avenue
Fort Wayne, IN 46808

Thank you. Welcome.

You might also be interested in taking a look at ***Hawkmoon*** *and* ***Corum****. Both are by* ***Michael Moorcock,*** *and if you don't know about the Eternal Champion, just let me say they all kind of fit together.*

Dear Roy, Jan, and Laurel,

Perhaps of more interest to readers, since Hawkwind music may not appeal to everyone (it is LOUD, real Disaster Area-type stuff), is the fact that the members of Hawkwind are the central characters of two books Mr. Moorcock has co-written with Michael Butterworth. The first is called The Time of the Hawklords, and is concerned with a dead or dying earth, and the Hawklords attempt to... nah, read it. It's pretty standard Moorcock.

The second book, well, I never managed to buy a copy, and I can't remember the title, but I do know this much: the Hawklords somehow bring Elric to their (our?) world. I know, I know! It's a terrible thing to leave all these Elric fans hanging, knowing there is an Elric story around that they may not have read. Think how I feel? I had it in my hands years ago, but no money to buy it!

As for "The Vanishing Tower," well, it's looking real nice. I really like Jan Duursema's work here, much more so than George Freeman. I didn't think George's style really suited Elric. I'd like to know what Mr. Moorcock thinks about the series, and who he prefers.

Jon Marvin
1013 Rowntree Crescent
Pickering, Ontario
Canada L1V 5A8

For Mr. Moorcock's thoughts about the various adaptations, take a look at the introduction to the aforementioned graphic novel.

Dear First,

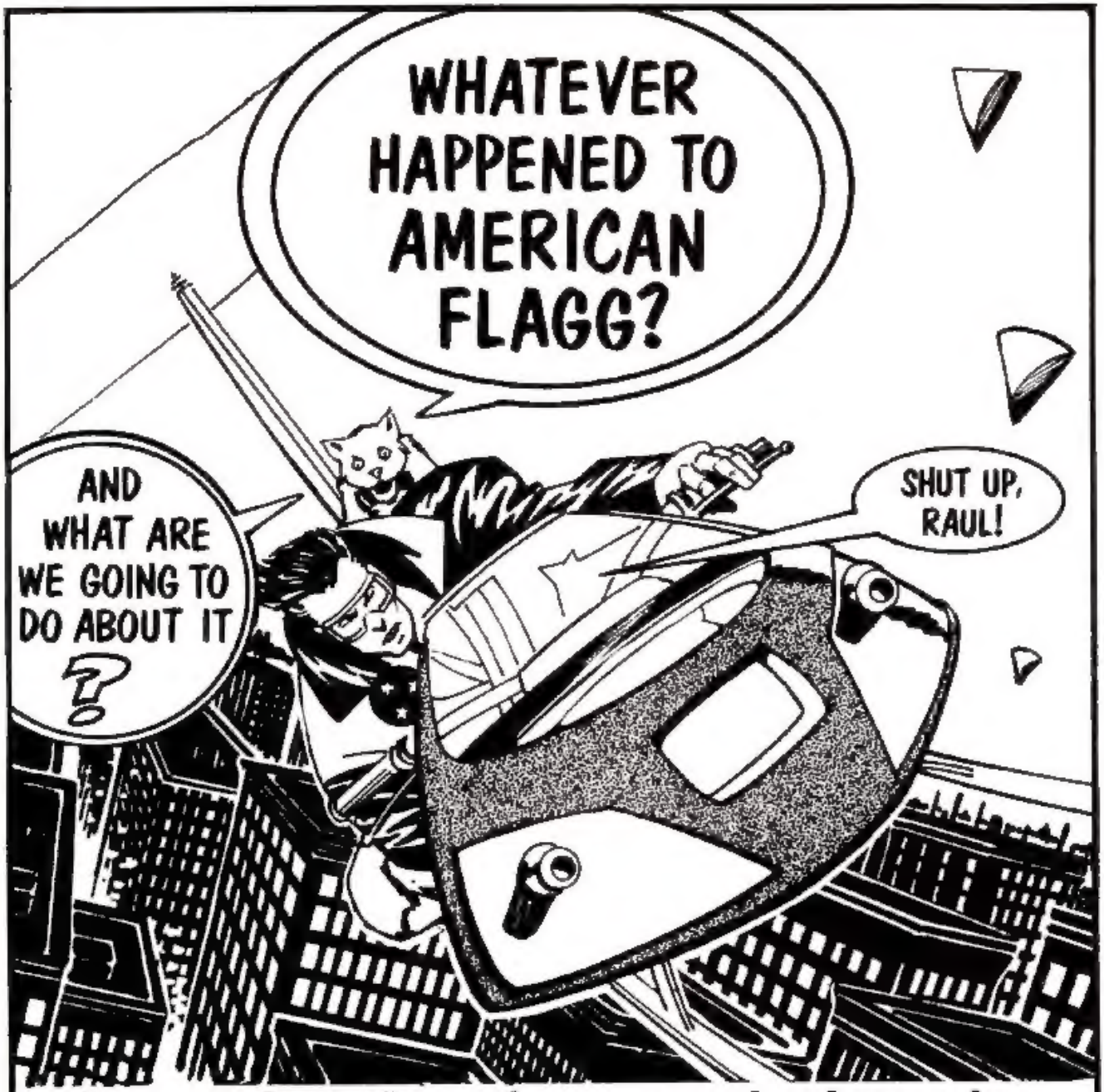
I've been a Moorcock fan for a few years and unfortunately didn't learn about the comic adaptation of the Elric series until Sailor on the Seas of Fate came out. The comic books are very enjoyable; I find the more I read them the more I like them. The artwork has a sort of bizarre tone to it that enhances the stories. Have you guys ever thought about doing Tolkien's Lord of the Rings?

Chris Pickford
105 Winthrop Lane
Geneva, IL 60134

The mind reels. I love J.R.R. Tolkien's books, but I think my brain might start sticking to the top of my skull if I had to keep the mythologies of two such diverse "universes" straight.

NEXT ISSUE: Elric is mugged and the Ring of Kings stolen — leading the two companions on a desperate journey to Nadsokor, the City of Beggars! By **Roy Thomas** and **Jan Duursema.**

— Laurel Fitch



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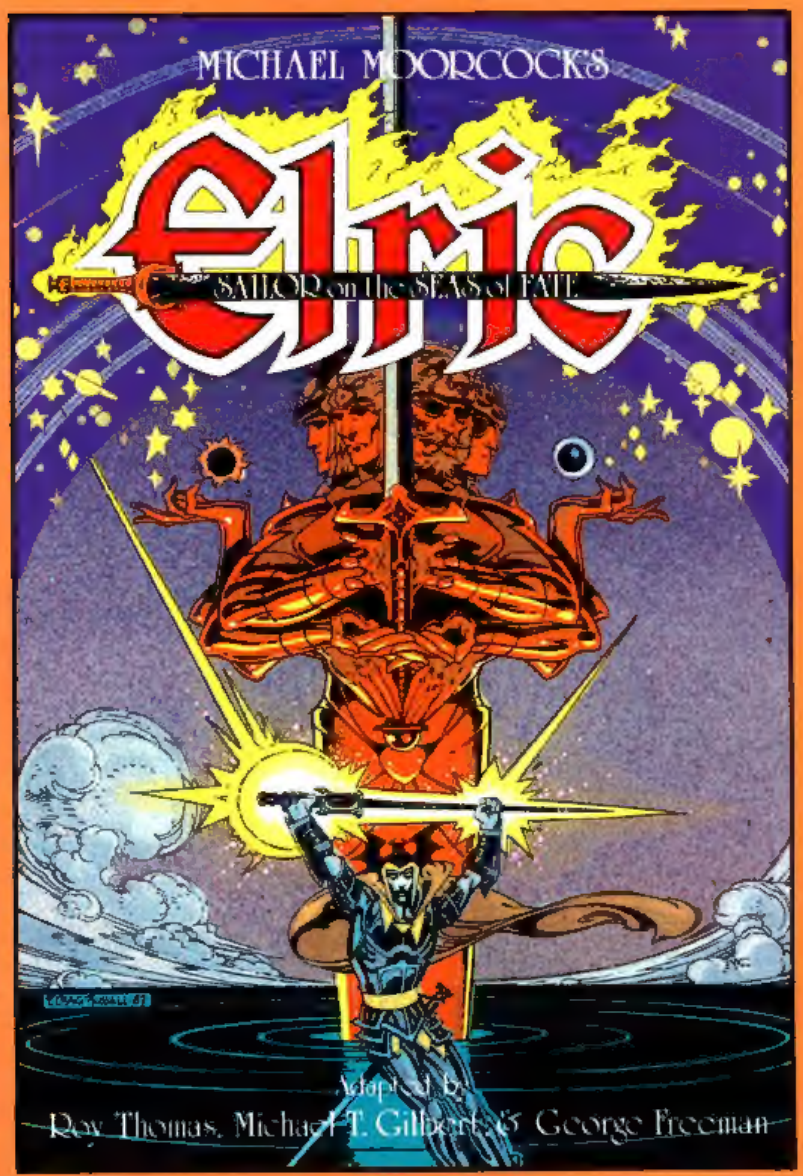

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